

Isaiah's Availability (Isaiah 6:1-9)

Proposition: Here in Isaiah 6 is that visionary moment where Isaiah yields a complete surrender to God, available to what every God asks him to do. In this magnificent scene in the life of Isaiah we see six descriptive moments of his surrender to God that can be emulated in the life of each and every child of God.

- I. A Dramatic Confrontation (Vs. 1-4)
- II. A Devastating Conviction (Vs. 5)
- III. A Demonstrated Cleansing (Vs. 6-7)
- IV. A Divine Conversation (Vs. 8a-b)
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- VI. A Direct Commission (Vs. 9)

Isaiah's Availability (Isaiah 6:1-9)

When J. Wilmer Chapman was in London he had an opportunity to meet General Booth of the Salvation Army, who at that time was past 80 years of age. Dr. Chapman listened reverently as the old general spoke of the trials and the conflicts and the victories he has experienced. The American evangelist then asked the general if he would disclose his secret for success. "He hesitated a second" Dr. Chapman said, "and I saw the tears come into his eyes and streak down his cheeks, "and then he said "I will tell you the secret. God has had all there was of me. There have been men w/ greater brains than I and men w/ greater opportunities but from the day I got the fear of London in my heart, and a vision of what Jesus Christ could do with the fear of London

I. A Dramatic Confrontation-

Isaiah, who many equate to as the Shakespeare of the Bible, here begins to describe an encounter with God. If we will ever be directed to surrender our lives completely and wholly to God it will not come from our own desires or

ambitions, but by divine interruption, Great King Uzziah died in shameful leprosy. But God is still on the throne, exalted, full of majesty and power. Attended by angles whose sole purpose it is to declare his perfect holiness. Holy for father! Holy for Son! Holy for holy spirit! Their very voices shake the thrones of the heavens. This

II A Devastating Conviction - Such a Dramatic confrontation does not draw out of the human heart a response of euphoria or elation, but of a holy fear and divine dread! John in the Book of the Revelation encountered this same Unknowable, Undescribable, Incomprehensible, Unparalleled God and fell on his face like a dead man. Here, confronted w/ such purity and holiness, "Well is me!" Ch 15 Isaiah "Weed" everything that would lay still. But here, he is personally convicted of his own sin. In order to be completely surrendered to God we call our sin what God calls it to be, ^③ devilish rebellion and

III A Demonstrated Cleansing - Sin, in both the sinner and the saint may be to God as black a thousand midnights, but in Vs 6 + 7 there is the dawn of a bright hope, the forgiveness of sins! This after referred it is when

1) ...London, I made up my mind that He would have all of William Booth there was. And if there is anything of power in the Salvation Army today, it is because God has all the adoration of my heart, all the power of my will, and all the influence of my life." Dr. Chapman said he went away from that meeting with General Booth knowing "that the greatness of a man's power is the measure of his surrender." Here in Isaiah 6 is that visionary moment where Isaiah yields a complete surrender to God, available to what every God asks him to do. In this magnificent scene in the life of Isaiah we see six descriptive moments of his surrender to God that can be emulated in the life of each and every child of God.

2) ...the heavens. This same throne is still occupied by the same God. Centuries later these same eternal angles still declare his holiness and purity, in no less diminished resonance. His power is undiminished. His authority is undeniable. His greatness is unmatched. His glory is unparalleled! This revelation was given to Isaiah in a vision! This revelation is given to us in a volume! The word of God! All these glowing and magnificent characteristics are delivered to us in the Word of God. The same dramatic confrontation awaits us within each page of God's Holy Word!

3) ...rebellion and blasphemous treason against God. All sin is a stench in God's nostril. J. C. Ryle - "*The very animals whose smell is most offensive to us have no idea that they are offensive, and are not offensive to one another. And man, fallen man, has just no idea what a vile thing sin is in the sight of God.*"

1) Are sins preventing your surrender to God, **Isaiah 1:18** Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. **Ezekiel 36:25** Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you.

Romans 5:20 Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound: **1 John 1:9** If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Would you be free from the burden of sin? There is power in the blood, There is power in the blood, Sin stains are lost in it's life giving flow. There is wonderful power in the blood.

2) ...to participate in divine plans. Are you missing in because of sin. The lead character in one of my favorite TV shows has developed a hearing problem. Often times in the show that will muffle the voices of others around him so low that you can barely hear them. Every one around him can hear fine. But he can't. Has sin done that with you? Everyone around seems to be either being used of God or seeing how God could use you, but you're not.

the animals of substitutional atonement were completely given over for sins. But Hebrews tells us that the ashes of an heifer can not forgive sins. No this alter is the ever sufficient redemptive finished work of Christ on the cross. From that ever living offering comes a sin forgiving agent, the grace of God, to be administered freely to all who apply! Are sins present

IV. A Divine Conversation - Once sin is dealt with, it not only seems as though the lips are dealt with but the ears are opened. Isaiah becomes privy to an inter-trinitarian conversation. "Us" Father, Son, + Spirit. He did not say "You" will go for us. God does not physically shanghai nor mechanically force servants to do his bidding. But invite our participation! Matthew Henry calls this "an unspeakable favor of God" God purposed to deliver a message of judgment to Israel and opens the door of divine usefulness to Isaiah. Moses + Samuel ^{saw} God is giving an open invitation for you to partake!

V. A Declared Consent - No cloudy hearing now! No after a confrontation a confessor, cleaving and confessing there is a willing, surrendered consent! God, I'm available! Use me!

Here am I! There are no objections from
Isaiah like there was w/ Moses. He was
ready! He was firm as well! I will!
No waver, no hesitation! What ever the cost
no matter the distance, how ever the
difficulty! I will Go. Matthew Hen
peers into the mind of Isaiah - "Lord employ me
as thou thinkest fit, cut out what work thou
pleasest for me. I will never prescribe, but
ever subscribe. Here am I ready to go to

VI. A Direct Commission - God
never turns away genuine volunteers,
"Send me" says Isaiah. God says "Go"
Isaiah is a genuine volunteer. I've seen
many a person volunteer but many
w/ pre-conceived notions and alterior
plans. But God never turns away a genuine
volunteer. For this assignment, a genuine
volunteer was imperative. V9 b-c God is
sending him on mission to a people that
will not hear, that will not see, that
will not heed. It is believed by many histori-
ans that in the end of his ministry Isaiah
Isaiah was sawn asunder. (Heb 11). This
difficult task was not left to Isaiah.

VII. Close - My Prayer for all of us is
for a dramatic confrontation, a dramatic
confrontation. William Booth said it best:
The greatness ⁽³⁾ of a man's power is the measure

- 1) ...ready to go to whom and on what errand Thou wilt, whatever objections may be made against it. Lord, I am at Thy service, entirely at Thy disposal. Let the will of God be done by me and done concerning me.
- 2) ...Isaiah's ability or strength, but everything needed to accomplish the mission of God resides in the words "Go." One author wrote: *If, when God calls to you to appear and act for Him, you cheerfully say, "Here am I," you may be sure when you call to Him, He will also say, "Here am I." If you say, "Lord, send me," He will say, "Go, and I will be with thee."*
- 3) ...is the measure of His surrender.